

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/068,239

Examiner

Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin

Applicant(s)

O'NEILL, TERRENCE JOHN

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/05/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7, -17, 31, 34, 35, 37-41.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reason for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 7: US Patent 4190221 to Updike fails to disclose a hanger having a bottom hanger coupled to the back face and spaced apart from the top hanger wherein the bottom hanger includes a nonlinear bottom slot having a substantially constant width substantially equal to the width of the top slot and a first, closed end and a second, opened end, the second end opening into a bottom receiving area that is at least twice as wide as the bottom slot. Neither Updike nor any other prior art show or teach a hanger with a top and bottom hanger arrangement.

Claims 9-13 have been found to be allowable as being dependent upon the allowable claim 7.

Regarding claim 14: Updike fails to disclose a hanger comprising a chamber formed behind the hanger face and substantially surrounded by the sidewall; a nonlinear slot cut into the hanger face, the slot lying substantially in a vertical plane defined by the hanger face and opening at one end into a receiving area; and at least two flanges, one on each side of the receiving area and angled in toward the open end of the slot. Neither Updike nor any other prior art show or teach a hanger with such an arrangement.

Claims 15-17, 37-41 have been found to be allowable as being dependent upon the allowable claim 14.

Regarding claim 31: Updike fails to disclose a hanger comprising wherein a slot includes a third, closed end, and wherein the locking path extends between the first, closed end and the third, closed end, and wherein the exit path extends between the first, closed end and the second,

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opened end, and wherein the entry path extends between the second, opened end and the first, closed end. Updike nor any other prior art show or teach a hanger with such an arrangement.


Claims 34 and 35 have been found to be allowable as being dependent upon the allowable claim 31.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2104.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

JGM
1/7/08


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